

WEBSTER'S NEW UNIVERSAL UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY

**DELUXE
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WEBSTER'S NEW TWENTIETH CENTURY DICTIONARY

Second Edition

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Published by New World Dictionaries/Simon and Schuster
A Simon & Schuster Division of Gulf & Western Corporation
Simon & Schuster Building
Rockefeller Center
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020
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Dictionary Editorial Offices
New World Dictionaries
850 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Manufactured in the United States of America

DW 20 19 18 17 16 15

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 83-42537

ISBN 0-671-41819-X

Previous editions of this book were published by The World Publishing Company,
William Collins + World Publishing Co., Inc.
and William Collins Publishers, Inc.

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

variometer

vār-i-om'ē-tēr, *n.* [from *L. varius*, various; and *-meter*.]
 1. an instrument for comparing magnetic forces or determining variations of magnetic force, especially at different places on the earth.
 2. an instrument for varying inductance in an electric circuit, consisting of a movable coil within a fixed coil, the two connected in series; used in radio tuning.
vār-i-ō-rum, *n.* [L., of various (scholars).] an edition or text, as of a literary work, containing variant readings or notes by various editors, scholars, etc.
vār-i-ō-rum, *a.* of such an edition or text.
vār'i-ous, *a.* [L. *varius*, diverse.]
 1. differing one from another; of several kinds.
 2. several; many; as, *various* sections of the country.
 3. many-sided; versatile.
 4. characterized by variety; varied in nature or appearance.
 5. changeable. [Rare.]
vār'i-ous-ly, *adv.* in various ways; with change; with diversity; as, flowers *variously* colored.
vār'i-ous-ness, *n.* variety.
vār'i-scite, *n.* [from *Variscia*, in Saxony.] a transparent, green, hydrous phosphate of aluminum.
vār'ix, *n.*; *pl.* **vār'i-cēs**, [L.] 1. in medicine, a permanently and irregularly swollen or dilated blood or lymph vessel, especially a vein; a varicose vein.
 2. in conchology, any of the longitudinal thickened elevations which occur at irregular intervals on the outer surface of spiral shells.
vār'let, *n.* [OFr. *varlet*, *vasslet*.]
 1. an attendant. [Archaic.]
 2. a boy or youth serving as a knight's page. [Archaic.]
 3. a rascal; scoundrel; knave. [Archaic.]
 4. in playing cards, the knave or jack. [Obs.]
vār'let-ess, *n.* a girl or woman varlet. [Obs.]
vār'let-ry, *n.* 1. varlets collectively. [Archaic.]
 2. the rabble; the crowd; the mob. [Archaic.]
vār'mint, **vār'ment**, *n.* [var. of dial. *vermin*, with unhistoric *-t*.] vermin; especially, a person or animal regarded as troublesome or objectionable; also used as a generalized epithet of disparagement. [Dial. or Colloq.]
vār'nish, *n.* [ME. *vernisch*; OFr. *vernis*, varnish.]
 1. (a) a preparation made of resinous substances dissolved in oil (*oil varnish*) or in a liquid like alcohol which evaporates quickly (*spirit varnish*), and used to give a glossy surface to wood, metal, etc.; (b) any of various natural or prepared products used for the same purpose.
 2. the smooth, hard, glossy surface of this after it has dried.
 3. a surface gloss or smoothness, as of manner; outward attractiveness, often deceptive.
vār'nish, *v.t.*; **vār'nish** (-nish), *pt.*, *pp.*; **vār'nishing**, *ppr.* [OFr. *vernisser*, to varnish.]
 1. to cover with varnish; to brush varnish on.
 2. to impart a smooth surface to, as with varnish; to give a varnished appearance to.
 3. to make attractive on the surface; to embellish, often deceptively.
 And bow the knee to pomp that loves to varnish guilt.
 4. to polish up; to brighten.
vār'nish-ēr, *n.* one who varnishes or whose occupation is varnishing.
vār'nish-ing, *n.* the act of laying on varnish; also, varnish.
vār'nish-ing dāy, a day previous to the opening of an art exhibit, when the artists are given the opportunity of retouching or varnishing their pictures.
vār'nish tree, any one of various trees which exude resinous juices, either naturally or from incisions, which can be made into a lacquer or varnish.
black, Burmese, or Martaban varnish tree; the theetsee.
false varnish tree; same as *tree of heaven* under tree.
Japan varnish tree; the lacquer tree.
New Granada varnish tree; a rubiaceous tree of South America, *Elæagia utilis*.
vār'si-ty, *n.*; *pl.* **vār'si-ties**, [contr., from *university* in 18th-c. pronun.] a team, usually athletic, that represents a university, college, or school in any competition.

vār'si-ty, *a.* designating or of a university, college, or school team or competition.
vār-sō-vienne', *n.* [Fr., of Warsaw.] a 19th-century dance resembling the polka, redowa, and mazurka; also, the music for the dance.
vār'tā-bed, **vār'tā-bet**, *n.* [Armenian.] one of an order of ecclesiastics in the Armenian church intermediate between the bishops and priests, and devoted to teaching.
Var'y-nā, *n.* [Sans.] the Hindu god of the cosmos, represented in the Vedic hymns as of very great and manifold powers. He is depicted as four-armed and riding on a sea animal.



VARUNA

vār'us, *a.* [Mod. L., from L., bent, grown inward.] an abnormal turning inward of the foot so as to produce bowleg.
vār'us, *a.* bowlegged.

vār've, *n.* [Sw. *varv*, layer.] in geology, a layer in a deposit of sedimentary material, showing seasonal variation caused by differences in summer and winter deposition; characteristic of certain recent deposits in glaciated regions, and used to estimate the length of glacial and interglacial periods.

vār'vel, *n.* in falconry, a ring attached to the end of a hawk's jess and used to fasten the jess to the leash.

vār'veled, **vār'velled**, *a.* having varvels or rings; in heraldry, designating a bearing in which the leather thongs or jesses which tie on the bells to the legs of hawks are borne floatant with rings at the ends.

vār'y, *v.t.*; **vār'y**, *pt.*, *pp.*; **vār'y-ing**, *ppr.* [ME. *varien*; OFr. *varier*, from L. *variare*, to vary, change, from *varius*, various.]
 1. to change in form, appearance, nature, substance, etc.; to alter; to modify.
 2. to make different from one another.
 3. to give variety to; to diversify; as, *vary* your reading.
 4. in music, to repeat (a melody or theme) with changes in harmony, rhythm, key, etc.

vār'y, *v.i.* 1. to undergo change in any way; to become different.
 2. to be different or diverse; to differ; as, the second edition *varied* little from the first.
 3. to deviate, diverge, or depart (from).
 4. to alter in succession; to alternate.
 5. in biology, to show variation.
 6. in mathematics, to change (directly or inversely) in the same ratio.
 7. to disagree; to be at variance in opinion. [Obs.]

vār'y, *n.* alteration; change.
vār'y-ing, *a.* altering; changing; deviating.
varying hare; a hare, *Lepus variabilis*, whose coat of fur becomes white in winter.

vas, *n.*; *pl.* **vā'sā**, [L., a vessel, dish.] in anatomy and biology, a vessel; a duct.

vā'sā, *a.* relating to a vessel or duct; pertaining to the blood vessels.

vas'cū-lār, *a.* [L. *vasculum*, a small vessel, dim. of *vas*, a vessel, dish.] of or having vessels or ducts; specifically, (a) in anatomy and zoology, designating or of the vessels, or system of vessels, for conveying blood or lymph; (b) in botany, designating or of the ducts for conveying sap.

vascular bundle; in botany, a cluster of fibers and vessels.

vascular plants; plants whose structure is characterized by vascular tissue; the phanerogamous division of plants.

vascular system; in botany, the arrangement of all the vascular tissue in a plant.

vascular tissue; in botany, tissue composed of the ducts that carry sap through any of the higher plants.

Vas-cū-lār'ēs, *n.pl.* one of two great divisions of plants, consisting of those in which vascular tissue appears, and thus including all the

phanerogamous plants, both exogenous and endogenous; vascular plants. [Obs.]

vas'cū-lār'i-ty, *n.*; *pl.* **vas'cū-lār'i-ties**, vascular form or condition.

vas'cū-lār-i-zā'tion, *n.* vascularity.

vas'cū-lōse, *n.* the substance constituting the principal part of the vascular tissue of plants.

vas'cū-lōse, *a.* of, full of, or supplied by or with ducts or vessels; vascular.

vas'cū-lous, *a.* vasculose.

vas'cū-lum, *n.*; *pl.* **vas'cū-lā**, [L., a small vessel.]
 1. in botany, an ascidium.
 2. a botanist's metal case for carrying specimens as he collects them.

vas de'fe-rens, *n.*; *pl.* **vā'sā def'ēr-en'tiā** (-shi-ā), the convoluted excretory duct of a testicle, conveying sperm from the testicle to the ejaculatory duct of the penis.

vāse (or **vāz**; **Bril. vāz**), *n.* [Fr., from L. *vasum*, a collateral form of *vas*, a vessel, dish.]
 1. an open container of metal, glass, pottery, etc., usually rounded and of greater height than width, used for decoration, displaying flowers, etc.



GREEK VASES

2. in architecture, a sculptured ornament resembling a vase.

vas'ec'tō-my, *n.* the surgical removal of all or part of the vas deferens.

vas'e-line, *n.* [irregular formation, from G. *wasser*, water, and Gr. *elaion*, oil; and *-ine* (suffix used to form commercial names).] a petroleum jelly, light yellow or white, used as a lubricant or ointment; petrolatum: a trade-mark (*Vaseline*).

Vash'ti, *n.* [Heb. *washiti*.] in the Bible, the queen of Ahasuerus of Persia: because she refused to present herself at his command at a feast, he repudiated her: Esth. i.

vas-i-fac'tive, *a.* [*vasi-*, and L. *facere*, pp. of *facere*, to make.] same as *vasoformative*.

vas'i-form, *a.* having the form, nature, or character of a vas or tube.

vas'ō-, **vas'ī-**, **vas-**, [from L. *vas*, a vessel.] combining forms meaning: (a) the blood vessels, as in *vasomotor*; (b) the vas deferens, as in *vasectomy*; (c) *vasomotor*.

vas'ō-cōn-strict'ōr, *a.* causing constriction of the blood vessels.

vas'ō-cōn-strict'ōr, *n.* a nerve or drug causing constriction of the blood vessels.

vas'ō-den'tine, *n.* [*vaso-*, and L. *dens*, *dentis*, a tooth.] in anatomy, a modification of dentine in which capillary tubes of the primitive vascular pulp remain uncalcified and carry red blood into the substance of the tissue.

vas'ō-dilāt'ōr, *a.* producing dilatation of the blood vessels.

vas'ō-dilāt'ōr, *n.* a vasodilator nerve or drug.

vas'ō-form'a-tive, *a.* in physiology, building up new blood vessels or vascular tissue.

vas'ō-hy-për-ton'ic, *a.* same as *vasoconstrictor*.

vas'ō-hy-për-ton'ic, *a.* same as *vasodilator*.

vas'ō-in-hib'it'ōr, *n.* any agent or drug that inhibits the action of the vasomotor nerves.

vas'ō-in-hib'it'ōr, *a.* hindering the action of the vasomotor nerves.

vas'ō-mō'tion, *n.* in anatomy, the contraction or dilatation of the caliber of a blood vessel.

vas'ō-mō'tōr, *a.* [*vaso-* and *motor*.] in physiology, regulating the size (i.e., caliber) of blood vessels by causing contraction or dilatation: said of a nerve, nerve center, or drug.

vas'ō-mō'tōr'iāl, **vas'ō-mō'tōr'ic**, **vas'ō-mō'tōr'y**, *a.* same as *vasomotor*.

vas'ō-pā-rē'sis, *n.* partial paralysis of vasomotor nerves.

vas'ōt'ō-my, *n.*; *pl.* **vas'ōt'ō-mies**, [*vaso-* and *-tomy*.] a surgical cutting of the vas deferens, as for the purpose of sterilizing sexually.

vas'ō-ton'ic, *a.* [*vaso-*, and Gr. *tonikos*, a tonic.] concerned in regulating the tone or tension of the blood vessels.

vas'ō-troph'ic, *a.* [*vaso-*, and Gr. *trophikos*, nursing.] affecting nutrition through the alteration of the caliber of the blood vessels.